

sometimes we take a book for discussion, sometimes a subject, sometimes a text. We have no prayer-meeting rut in which we run. The Spirit which leads us into all truth leads us by different methods. We have no idea of giving up our prayer-meetings because we have much other work.

I will mention our work five miles south of town. Last winter our meeting here resulted in some twenty additions. We have now a large and flourishing Sunday-school. Brother Charley Hesse is superintendent. Brother Hesse joined church last winter, and is consecrated to the Master; he talks of going to Ashland this fall. Brother Lou Sweitzer is assistant superintendent; Maggie Tedron, organist; Daisy Wymer, treasurer. These are all good substantial people, and deserve a special article and illustrations at some future time. We look for good results from this school.

Refreshing showers, blooming flowers, swelling fruit, growing grain and smiling nature cheers and encourages us after the hard winter and long drouths, and leads us to believe that the God of nature will bless and refresh his church which is of his own hands planting.

JOHN DUKE MCFADEN.

JUST ONE WORD.

P. J. BROWN.

Our good editor seems to dissent from some of my conclusions in reply to brother D. C. Moomaw. Well I suppose one of us is wrong. Allow me to call attention to an expression by C. H. B., in the same number of the EVANGELIST No. 19, page 7. "As grounds of reconciliation with God, baptism, feet-washing, and the Eucharist, are of no more value than a round coat or broad brim." Now in all candor I wish to know whether, *obedience*, is not the ground of reconciliation to God? "He that believeth and is baptized *shall be saved*." Mark 16: 16. "But God be thanked, that although ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered to you, being THEN made free from sin ye became the servants of righteousness." Rom. 6: 17, 18. Here are two quotations, and they can be multiplied by ten, and all be of equal force, proving beyond any possibility of doubt, that obedience is the turning point which evokes the sinner's acceptance with God. When were the Romans made free from sin? Answer. When they *from the heart obeyed* that form of doctrine. What form of doctrine? Answer. The Gospel—the practicable part of it.

If this is not true I for one have no use

for any church, and when I am brought up to a belief of the system of belittling the ordinances in the very insidious way that I have heard all my life, (the quotations from C. H. B. is not new) the universalist church is as good as any, and I think a little the more consistent, for they make little or no pretensions toward obedience. And while I accept the editor's criticism in love and thank him for his candor, I yet enter my protest against this semi-infidel teaching that we have entirely too much of by a few of the writers for the EVANGELIST.

Congress, Ohio, May 19.

COMMUNION WITH CHRIST.

CLARENCE M'BRIDE.

The humble manner in which we approach our Saviour is a sure willingness to hold communion with him. Christ is our Redeemer, and let us remember, dear readers, it was he who suffered the punishment inflicted upon him and died upon the cross that we, through him might live. Now will we say in answer to his calling, as did the evil spirits, "let us alone?" The Holy One was once with us and did speak as a human form to his people, but he could not forever stay. He has gone he said, to prepare a place for the honest Christian people. But what shall become of the sin-stained people? Ah, they shall never commune with Christ, but rather be cast out into outer darkness. Watch and pray therefore, for ye know not the day nor the hour when the Son of man cometh. Prayer is the great watch tower upon which all our arms of defense are based. We should also learn of Christ's teachings, and the Bible is our hope, faith and belief. The more we learn of this beautiful and glorious home which Christ has purchased for us, the more we want to learn, and it is being directed by the good spirit through our conscience that leads us to the law which was propounded by our loving Savior. Then we should look to him for help. There is a help which we can depend upon when everything else fails, and that is the help which we might receive from the King of kings, and a ruler of all nations. You will remember that when the Jewish army was imprisoned behind their own walls in the city of Jerusalem by the Assyrian army, and no means of escape seemed possible, and the army being too great to resist, they were much troubled, and thus all power which might have been given them from above, and a power which had already won their greatest victories, they sent over into Egypt for help, which was thought by themselves to be the best shield for protection, and in accordance

with their request help was promised and the officers went back to Jerusalem and told the Assyrian army to come ahead as they had plenty of help. The Assyrian army rushed forward and destroyed the whole of the Jewish army. Now where was their help? But the Lord hath said: "Woe unto them that go down into Egypt for help." Shall we commune in a holy sense with God? Yes, we will ever be ready to step forward and declare ourselves a follower of Christ, even though the whole world shall mock us. We should commune with Christ in prayer. Prayer is one of the most necessary duties of a Christian life; we should pray in faith, believing that we shall have peace with God. If we have no faith, we will likewise have no peace. Christ says: "Peace be unto you," and this peace shall live within you according to your faith in prayer. There was Thomas, who at one time doubted that he had any peace by communion with God. His doubts were finally overcome, and he was wont to exclaim, "My Lord and my God." Although it may seem hard for us to serve Christ at first, but it will not last forever, as God's "will be done," and we can be the one to help do it. We can do nothing without power be given us from above, and that power is greater than the armies of the whole world. Our sorrows will not last long.

God's purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower.

Time may pass and Christianity grow stronger; but the sins of the world will weaken in their day of trial.

SWEET WORDS.

Only a few sweet, loving words, that is all; but coming from the heart and going to the heart, they would brighten many a life and comfort many a soul as the speaker of them little knows. Let us not be so chary of them, especially as we get far on in the journey of life, and often find the way a little hard and wearisome. If they are but few, let them be often spoken between us, we who love each other in any relation of life. It is easy to get out of the way of speaking them; but it is not easy sometimes to get out of the way of hearing them, when once they have made their sweet music in our ears. And let us, for our own sake, be sure to speak them before the hearts which they might gladden have gone beyond the veil that hides them from an earthly love and care. This human love of ours is surely one of God's best gifts to us; and he must mean that we shall use it for the help and comfort of others with whom he links our lives.—Mary H. Perkins.